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OGC HAS REVIEWED.

3 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR:

25X1A8a

ATTENTION:

25X1A9a

SUBJECT:

Questions Related to a New French Military
Service Law

1. The French Assembly passed in October 1953 a law designed to retaliate against nations who draft French nationals into their own armies by reciprocating against the nationals of those countries. This law is aimed primarily at the U.S. where foreign nationals are subject to the military draft. It is believed that the French will give to Americans living in France the same treatment meted out by America to Frenchmen living in America.

2. Generally speaking, the draft in America exempts:

- a. diplomatic personnel
- b. treaty persons
- c. bona fide students
- d. seasonal workers
- e. tourists.

Other males (between the ages 18½ - 26) must register for the draft within six months after arriving in America. At that time they must declare their willingness to serve. If they refuse they, from then on, are forever barred from American citizenship. This also means in practice that they would be forever barred from entry into the U.S. on a permanent basis, i.e., under the quota. It would also mean that should they leave the country and wish to re-enter at a later date they could probably only do so if they were returning:

- a. under the very same circumstances of their original entry, i.e., as representatives of the same firm, etc.
- b. under temporary tourist visa.

3. Since many of the provisions of the American law regarding entry into the U.S. differ from the provisions of the French law, it cannot be assumed that Americans living in France will be treated in regard to their draft status in an identical fashion to Frenchmen living in America. It is therefore desired that State request the

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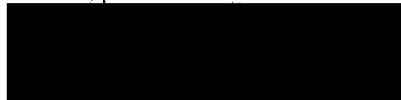
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French authorities to clarify specifically how the recent bill passed by the Assembly will be applied to American nationals living in France, and that a report on this subject be submitted to this office.

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Chief, Western Europe

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